PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2010 - 2011

Cal Poly Pomona Delta Beta

A. Initiations

The selection process for our initiates this year began week before the start of the initiating quarter. We submitted a request for the list of ME students who conformed to the National Pi Tau Sigma eligibility requirements (top quarter/third of the junior/senior class). Each of these students would receive a letter from the president stating that they were Pi Tau Sigma initiation candidates, pending review.

Candidates were reviewed on the following academic criteria:

- Must have attended Cal Poly Pomona for 1 year
- Must have completed a minimum of 40 "core" units
- Must have a minimum core GPA of 2.7

If a candidate was deemed academically eligible, they were allowed to continue the initiation process. They were required to be vetted by the current Pi Tau Sigma members, by obtaining a minimum of ten signatures of Pi Tau Sigma members. Two of the signatures were required to be Pi Tau Sigma professors, and three had to be from student officers. Signature were not allowed to be gained at official Pi Tau Sigma functions, but had to be sought out in classes, project meeting, study sessions, or similar. We also required initiates to do 5 hours of community service, either to the department or in some engineering capacity.

Initiations were carried out in the last academic week of Fall and Spring quarters. Initiates were invited to bring witnesses to the ceremony, which was held in a darkened room in the student union. A strict formal dress code was imposed on the initiation ceremonies. The president and vice president would carry out the ceremony as per the Pi Tau Sigma charter. The Crest and Badge were presented to the initiates by other members of the Pi Tau Sigma Board. Finally, the president would conclude the ceremony by welcoming each initiate into Pi Tau Sigma individually by sharing the Pi Tau Sigma secret handshake. All other Pi Tau Sigma officers, professors, and witnesses were invited to share in this ritualistic welcoming.

B. Chapter Activities

This year Pi Tau Sigma Delta Beta joined in with the other engineering clubs in several general engineering events. The first was the engineering club fair, where the engineering clubs would gather to promote themselves to the incoming students. Delta Beta students would talk to new ME students and give them the advice gathered from years of academic experience. We also advertised the Pi Tau Sigma weekly ME tutoring, held every Tuesday. This tutoring was held with two purposes in mind: to give Pi Tau Sigma initiates an opportunity for service hours, and to help new or struggling students to have the chance to become future Pi tau Sigma initiates.

We also participated in national Engineering Week. Here, not only did we advertise tutoring, we also hosted a 'Pi' the Professor booth. Doctors Chuan-Chiang Chen and Kathleen M. Puskar graciously agreed to have tins of whipped cream shoved in their face as a form of karmic retribution for the students.

Delta Beta sent two representatives to the annual convention: President John Gates and Vice President Chandler Hwe. They found a wealth of information and support from the Pi Tau Sigma national leadership and other student chapters. While it was too late in implement some of the idea put forward by other student chapters, those suggestions have been passed down to next year's student leadership.

Elections for the new Pi Tau Sigma E-board were carried out in the middle of the Spring quarter. The following are the 2011-2012 Cal Poly Delta Beta E-board.

- President: Andrew Pytlynski
- Vice President: Adam Clark
- Treasurer: Chandler Hwe
- Secretary: Marc Munzing
- Activities Coordinator: Kaitlin Hom
- E-Council Representative: Justin Underwood

The Advisor of Pi Tau Sigma remains Professor David Miller.

Our final activity for the quarter was the Mechanical Engineering Banquet, hosted by Pi tau Sigma with help from the Cal Poly ASME student chapter. It was held at the Royal Vista Country Club in Walnut, Ca. This banquet was a huge success for the club, as both Professors and Students seemed to all have a really good time in a less rigid setting. Pi Tau Sigma recognized retiring professors Gary W. Koonce, John R. Biddle, Michael T. Shelton, and Charles L. Ritz for their years of service to the department. The mechanical engineering student body also handed out several professor awards, celebrating the student's favorite and most interesting professors. The final award of the night was the first annual Pi Tau Sigma Delta Beta purple shaft award, given to Doctor Peter Dashner, in recognition of his incredibly challenging but also incredibly awarding teaching. Finally, the current E-board formally transitioned their leadership to the incoming e-board.

C. Other

The following is a copy of the initiation letter sent of Pi Tau Sigma eligible candidates.

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

Mechanical Engineering
College of Engineering

Pi Tau Sigma
Honorary Mechanical Engineering Society
ΔB Chapter

21 September 2010

Dear Mechanical Engineering Student,

Congratulations, you have been selected as a candidate for initiation into the mechanical engineering honor society, Pi Tau Sigma.

Pi Tau Sigma was formed at the University of Illinois to acknowledge the achievements of the very best that the mechanical engineering profession had to offer, as well as to promote the integrity, service, and leadership of mechanical engineering students. To date there are 157 different chapters and thousands of members still fostering these ideals in all aspects of the profession.

As a member of Pi Tau Sigma, you would be formally recognized as among the best that the school has to offer in the mechanical engineering field. You would be tasked with upholding the values of integrity, service, and leadership that have defined the organization for 95 years. Membership lasts a lifetime; once initiated, you will carry the honor of Pi Tau Sigma membership for your life.

By receiving this letter, you have been identified as among the top 25% of the Junior class or top 35% of the Senior class. Unfortunately, that does not automatically qualify you for initiation into Pi Tau Sigma. **To qualify for initiation, a student must have completed at least one year at Cal Poly Pomona, must have completed a minimum of 40 core units (must be taking 300-level ME courses), and must have a minimum ME GPA of 2.7.** To verify that you meet these requirements, we request that you bring an unofficial transcript with you to your first meeting**. If you do not currently meet one or more of these requirements, we cannot initiate you into PI Tau Sigma at this time.** However, we initiate students twice a year, so you can expect to have the opportunity again in the future.

If you meet the initiation requirements, or have any questions whatsoever, we invite you to join us at the first meeting of the school year next Thursday, September 30th, at 12:00 in room 9-255. You may also e-mail us at PiTauSigma.calpoly@gmail.com.

Again, congratulations, and we look forward to seeing you shortly.

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THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY *Bakersfield, Channel Islands, Chico, Dominguez Hills, East Bay, Fresno, Fullerton, Humboldt, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Maritime Academy, Monterey Bay, Northridge, Pomona, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, San Luis Obispo, San Marcos, Sonoma, Stanislaus*

Pi Tau Sigma Representatives from Georgia Tech and Cal Poly Pomona celebrate the last day of the 2011 Annual Pi Tau Sigma convention in Chicago, IL with their creation: a snowman named Phillip Tiberius Sanders